



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:) Group Art Unit: 3724
Morikatsu MATSUDA et al.) Examiner: C. Goodman
Application No.: 09/661,459) Atty. Dkt. No. 000004.00661
Filed: September 13, 2001)
For: PUNCHING MACHINE) Date: October 17, 2001
AND METHOD THEREOF)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.115

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment is submitted in response to the Final Office Action dated February 28, 2001 and the Notice of Appeal dated July 30, 2001. An appeal brief with one month extension is due October 30, 2001. A petition for a one-month extension of time is filed concurrently herewith. In lieu of filing an appeal brief, a continued prosecution application is being filed, along with this Preliminary Amendment. Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Specification

On page 1, prior to the "Technical Field" heading, please enter the following paragraph:

--This application is a divisional application of U.S. Application No. 08/836, 029 filed on August 25, 1997 and issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,145,424.--

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